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WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 4, 1901.

FIVE CENTS A COPY.

STUPENDOUS STEAL

The Opening of the Kiowa Lands
to Homesteads.

THE ROCK ISLAND RAILWAY

And the Interior Department Work Hand in
Hand and 160,000 People are Fleeing to
the Tune of \$2,000,000, when if the Honest
Plan Submitted to the Department Was Adopted
Homesteaders would be Saved Loss of Money.

Of all the outrageous schemes for robbing the public—and not the richer portion of it either—the one recently put in force in connection with the opening of the Indian lands in Oklahoma exceeds in magnitude and barefaced fraud anything so far coming to the surface in our mismanaged Government Departments.

It is hardly necessary to reiterate that the McKinley Administration will go down to history as the most corrupt and thinly disguised looting combination of official rascals and politicians since the days of the "Boss" Tammany.

The land office, in the Department of the Interior, has just successfully perpetrated one of the most glaring and public robberies, whether intentionally or through ignorance the reader will judge for himself, which has taken place since the United States Treasury vaults to Pierpont Morgan & Co.

Mr. Herman, the Globe believes, is free from blame in the matter, that is, in being a consenting party to the plunder of the 167,000 people who were compelled to pay the Chicago and Rock Island Railway corporation over \$2,000,000 for transportation to El Reno, in Oklahoma Territory.

There the greater number of this vast concourse of people are at the present hour, in the forests, thousands of them will strew their bones for the coyotes to pick and snarl over, while the ungodly corporation referred to, after paying their hired and corrupt agents, who manipulated this stupendous robbery, will divide the spoils as good as murdered, thousands of honest home-seekers.

That the public may comprehend the atrocity in all its villainous details, we are compelled to devote a preliminary paragraph to the origin of the scheme, or rather, the creation of the opportunity.

Lone Wolf, an educated Baptist clergyman and chief of the Kiowa Indians, part of whose lands the Government decided to throw open to settlement, indignantly refused to do so.

Indignantly refused to do so, Washington two different times to prevail upon the President not to sign away his people's land. Run out of Washington on both occasions by the agents of the gang bent on plunder, he returned to his people and petitioned the United States court of the Territory to stop the robbery with an injunction.

Tuesday last, this final effort of the chief failed, as the following, from the daily press, will show:

"The Department of Justice today received a telegram stating that Judge Erwin, of the United States court in Oklahoma, had denied the application of Lone Wolf and other Indians for an injunction restraining the Government from distributing land in that Territory by drawing."

This judge said one time, in the presence of numerous witnesses, that—"I will resign from the bench for a farm in Oklahoma and make the farmer a judge in my place."

Ex-Judge Erwin Jones had this offer made him by Erwin. An idea of the judge may be obtained by the statement that this proposition was made at a poker game, and that Commissioner Dale was in the game. As for this one of the three McKinley Commissioners, it may only be said the most of his time is spent playing penny-ante poker and swilling beer.

These are the types of the Oklahoma end of the Rock Island Railway steal. Now we will proceed and unravel this end of the conspiracy to rob and plunder 167,000 people for the benefit of this soulless corporation.

During the month of March a plan was prepared and submitted to the Interior Department, with the advice and approval of the best informed legal talent to be found in Washington, D. C., and Oklahoma Territory.

The matter was referred to one Judge Willis Van Devanter, of Wyoming Territory, who, it was said, had charge and entire control of drawing said plans. The plans submitted "gave all legal homestead claimants in the United States the right to register by and through the U. S. mails, without leaving their homes or firesides. This plan provided that all making applications should enclose the land office fees of \$14 cash, to show their good faith and protect the Government against those not having homestead rights, the \$14 to be used by the successful applicants on filing their claims, the unsuccessful ones to have their money returned."

"The successful person would also be informed before he left his home 'the exact tract of land he had drawn' and where it was located."

It was a well-known fact that only about 13,000 homesteads were subject to homestead settlement in the whole of the country to be opened, and if such a plan was adopted there would be no necessity of over this number of people going upon the ground; besides, they would know before starting from home the exact tract of land on which they would make their future homes, and could go by any conveyance they chose and have ample time to prepare for the journey from any remote point in the United States.

For some unexplained reason, best known to the said Judge Willis Van Devanter, the above plan was not adopted, or any part of it. On the other hand, a plan was prepared by some one that forced 167,000 people from all parts of the United States to go upon the ground in person to register their names. Thus 154,000 souls to be informed they drew blanks, and about 12,000 others to remain and go

where they please and take their choice.

It is also true that the said Judge Willis Van Devanter, from Wyoming, is perfectly familiar with the West, and Western ways, and knows the inability of a small Western town of some 3,000 population, less than 15 years old, to accommodate, feed and shelter 175,000 strangers.

What could this city of Washington do with so vast a crowd, with all our hotels, boarding-houses and restaurants?

This is what was forced upon the citizens of El Reno—a crowd of some 175,000 people. True, these strangers were compelled to foot the bill. Here are the figures: Number registering at El Reno, 138,315; number registering at Lawton, 30,691.

Total number registering at Lawton, or Ft. Still and El Reno, 169,006. This number of people to say nothing of the sightseers on the ground, with sure thing men and fakers of all kinds, is a vast crowd.

This is not all; only a part of the hardships forced upon this vast crowd. The Kansas City newspapers give but a vague idea of the crowded condition of that city, and the trains coming in and leaving, particularly over the Chicago Rock Island Railroad, the only railroad running directly from Chicago, Ill., through Kansas City, Mo., to the lands in question. Said C. R. I. & P. R. R. had continually in Washington a representative during the preparation of plans of opening these new lands to settlement, and was in close communication with the said Judge Van Devanter all the while, on some other business, we presume. Selah!

Out of this 167,000 people, at least 100,000 must have passed over this C. R. I. & P. R. R.

Presuming the average distance to have been from Kansas City, Mo., of 314 miles, fair one way, which is \$10.70; each return trip, \$21.40, making the enormous sum of \$2,000,000, and over, taken out of an unsuspecting public, and put into the pockets of a great railroad company by officials of this Government, to say nothing about the hardships imposed. Of these we will allow the people to speak for themselves, coupled with the fact that newspapers have all ready published.

Now, let us look back and see if this same railroad company appears in any other business transaction with any of the Departments regarding the opening of these lands. It is reported one of its officials secured the contract to survey the said Kiowa Comanche Reservation for the snug sum of \$50,000. This same man, having kept in close touch with the Department during the preparation of the plans for opening the said lands to settlement, where were the Government corps of paid surveyors? Would they not work in harmony with the railroad company, Mr. Secretary?

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To repeat what transpired on the cars in and around the depot in Kansas City, where the weak and helpless women and children, what can one expect transpired at the village of Rush Springs, of less than 500 people, at the small place of Ft. Still, which accommodated the 167,000 people, 28 miles from the railroad, with over 30,000 strange people camped in the vicinity?

Now, Mr. Van Devanter, here are some other facts for you, sir, to explain: Why did you force 30,000 people out upon the plains, with no shelter, insufficient water, and this only secured from streams of a polluted character, and forced to pay tribute to an ex-railroad contractor for running restaurant tents?

Our great Secretary of the Interior, who was not known to miles from St. Louis until Mr. McKinley selected him for an office, which he has permitted to be trailed in the mud—and nasty mud at that, even if it is pay-dirt—has stood by with arms folded and permitted this fleecing by the Rock Island Railway corporation of 167,000 innocent homestead seekers.

How are all but the 13,000 who can only draw homesteads to return to the homes they abandoned? Thousands will never return, and if other thousands receive the hardships and the unsanitary conditions of their surroundings, they will be impoverished for life and drag out miserable existences along the dreary route from the promised land they shall never possess to the very place whence they came. Why, then, would draw a homestead? Why, the simple plan, the honest, straightforward plan, endorsed and recommended by honest, experienced men, of filing claims through the Land Office of the Interior Department was not adopted, the officials of the Rock Island Railway and the Assistant Attorney-General for the Land Office, Judge Willis Van Devanter are in the best position to answer satisfactorily to themselves, and "the public be damned!"

It does seem impossible for the public to believe that such a stupendous piece of folly could emanate from a department of an intelligent government, with hundreds of able clerks ready at hand to attend to the filing of claims of over 160,000 people from all sections of the country, forced to be present and on the ground in this distant Territory, with not even a gambler's chance of one in ten that they would draw a homestead. Why, then, the simple plan, the honest, straightforward plan, endorsed and recommended by honest, experienced men, of filing claims through the Land Office of the Interior Department was not adopted, the officials of the Rock Island Railway and the Assistant Attorney-General for the Land Office, Judge Willis Van Devanter are in the best position to answer satisfactorily to themselves, and "the public be damned!"

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WHY HE RESIGNED

Mr. A. W. Machen's Resignation Was
Demanded by Mr. Heath

BECAUSE OF AN INVESTIGATION

By Congress in which His Brother-in-Law
Was Found Guilty and Dismissed, and in
which He Had to Admit Apportioning His
Own Brother to Office Under an Assumed
Name.

In last Sunday's Globe we made this statement and inquiry: "The resignation of Mr. Machen was demanded by Mr. Heath, tendered and accepted. Why has this acceptance been withdrawn and Mr. Machen continued in office?"

Mr. A. W. Machen, as previously stated in this paper, changed his political convictions, if he ever had any, in the campaign of 1896, and became a Gold Democrat. Why he did so is quite evident to those who are familiar with his conduct in the secret agency fraud, under Cleveland's second administration, when his scheme was defeated by act of Congress as well as by an investigation of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. The investigation of the Commission was held in March or April, 1896, but the testimony in that case has never been disclosed to the public. The findings of the Commission, Mr. Machen stated in his resignation, were referred to Postmaster-General Wilson, and by him the case was sent to the Department of Justice for an opinion from the Attorney-General. Fortunately for Mr. Machen, the Attorney-General, Judson Harmon, was an Ohio man, otherwise he might have fared no better than his man "Friday," and brother-in-law, Wm. M. Bellman, who was dismissed from the service, and for whose dismissal Mr. Machen was wholly responsible.

Mr. Bellman, however, was not a legal employee in Government service. Immediately after the election of 1896, Mr. Machen began to develop his plan of retention in office, and through the assistance of a pair of attorneys, who had left their homes in a Western State years ago for the good of that State, formed the intimate acquaintance of Mr. Abner McKinley, who, it would seem, was not reluctant to embrace the opportunity afforded, if there was any money in it for him. The Globe has given this matter a thorough investigation, and we stand on solid ground. The acquaintance of these two congenial and enterprising gentlemen, through the aid of legal talent, developed into a business venture, and we now propose to disclose to the public the real and true cause of Mr. Machen's retention in office. Mr. Heath may have many sins of omission and commission to answer for in the sweet life and bye, but the cause of Mr. Machen's retention in office is not one of them. He positively had no alternative; either himself or Mr. Machen had to quit the service, as the combination was too powerful to overcome. Mr. Heath yielded, was obliged to yield, or step down and out.

It is well known that once in every four years contracts are made with outside parties by the Departments in Washington to furnish certain supplies. Now, the free postal delivery service is a very elastic institution; it will hold anything and everything of plunder, for the simple reason that it is co-extensive with the United States, even embracing some of the islands of the sea, hence the plunder is generally out of sight.

It was in the winter of 1896-7 that Mr. Machen conceived the project of gobbling up the forthcoming contract for letter boxes for the free delivery service, the latter named gentleman being in the Department known and understood the ropes, which accounts for his being chosen. Mr. Graham checked it off. All these matters are stifled, it appears, by some official interested in keeping the money in both the Lock-shop and the Mailbag Department. Who is the melancholy pleasure of presenting a case to Mr. Greene which, if found to be a fact on investigation, will not only force the Superintendent of the Carnegie Library to disburse with the captain's service but also have a tendency to make the superintendent himself hunt a hole and feel for his scalp.

The Globe has the testimony submitted that Captain Wurdiman is guilty of the most blasphemous utterance, in the presence of an elevator full of men, which has ever shocked the ears of a Christian. The incident occurred in this manner:

He had ordered a mechanic in charge of half a dozen men to make some repairs in two of the committee rooms, and as the mechanic and his helpers were on the elevator he started out, "I want this job done promptly; kick everybody out of your way. Kick God himself if necessary!"

Shocked beyond expression, the mechanic answered, "Captain, so far as human beings are concerned, I will attend to the instructions; but as touching in the air at the mercy of God"—here the elevator started, and the horrified listeners, who have informed The Globe of the incident did not catch the conclusion of the mechanic's reply.

Comment on this blasphemy by a public employee we will not trust our indignation with. It appears the captain received a sunstroke some years ago, and it is more charitable in The Globe to ascribe to the effects of this sunstroke the captain's language than to the effects of a sunstroke on the captain's language.

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MORAL: Always preserve your receipts when dealing with a loan company.

The lady correspondent who "roasts" our friend "Mikey" Lewis and several female clerks, etc., etc., will please make a note of the fact that she omits her name, and as to the stylish card parties with the carriages to return the guests to their homes, which the grass widow hopes to see society adorned with, well, The Globe is our meat, as he is alone responsible. Tell The Globe something about "Mikey."

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What was the consideration of Abner's intervention for Mr. Machen? The Globe has now disclosed it. Abner, through the late Italian hand, cunning and ingenuity of Mr. Machen, secured the contract for supplying the free delivery service with letter boxes, and if that service has not been well supplied, or over-supplied, in the last four years, we opine it was not the fault of the contractor. His boxes were manufactured by the Reading Stove Works at Reading, Pa., and the bills of lading will show that they were shipped to all sections of the United States, and into some of our new possessions. His contract expired June 30th last, and if he has any interest in the present steel-box contract, The Globe is not aware of it. The question to be determined by the Postmaster-General from a legal standpoint is this: Did A. W. Machen, as Superintendent of the Free Delivery System, have a pecuniary interest in this contract with Abner McKinley? If so, there is a wholesome remedy, and the sooner it is administered by the officials above him, who are primarily responsible for his acts, the easier it will be for all concerned. The Globe places these facts before the responsible officials in plain, unequivocal language, with this single proviso: If Mr. Machen is not suspended or removed, we shall continue until that is attained. In the interests of the public service, therefore, we again ask—and this time our question is directed to the President of the United States—"why, Mr. President, did Mr. Perry Heath withdraw his acceptance of the resignation of A. W. Machen, Superintendent of the Free Delivery System?"

THE BLASPHEMY

And Other Acts and Words of Captain Wurdiman

OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

Superintendent Greene's Attention Called to the Same-Specific Charges which The Globe Stands Ready to Establish by Unimpeachable Testimony—What is Mr. Greene Going to Do About It?

John V. Wurdiman is captain of the watch at the Congressional Library, and he has held that position since its opening. If there is a petty official in the service of the Government more disliked by his subordinates and about whose conduct there are more complaints, The Globe has failed to hear of him. With the possible exception of the two doorkeepers, at the west and east doors, the captain has had some kind of trouble with every employee in his Department. The captain is a great stickler for the observance of the rules by those under him, but, like the king, he assumes to be above the law and the rules himself. For instance, smoking is strictly prohibited, and the captain enforces the prohibition with a clear in his mind, which he puts in the presence of the inferior citizen employees under his orders.

There is a story told of the captain which illustrates another phase of his character, in connection with the case of an employee named Tom Scarlett. Tom didn't get along with the captain, strange to say. In fact, nobody gets along with the captain who has independence of manhood, or who remembers that he is an equal citizen and a fellow taxpayer of the captain's. There is a keyboard under the care of the watch, and the keys are mysteriously disappeared one night during Tom's trick of duty, and they were received the next day by mail at the Library. The captain stormed, and had Tom on the carpet. He was duly reported to Mr. Superintendent Burnett R. Greene, who receives \$5,000 per annum salary, and who spends much of his time superintending the erection of private buildings, and is at present superintending the erection of the Carnegie Library building. Mr. Greene, "first" or "second," Tom Scarlett discharged. Captain O'Farrell, the well-known attorney, was secured by Scarlett, and that gentleman visited Mr. Greene to get a hearing for some facts which had developed touching the mysterious disappearance of the keys and their return by mail. These facts were to the effect that the clerk at the postoffice where the keys were weighed, and the amount of postage determined, took special notice of the man and woman who did the mailing, and stood ready and anxious to identify them. Mr. Greene was too busy drawing a \$5,000 salary from the Government and earning as big a fee on the side superintending the construction of the Carnegie Library. He refused to listen to or reopen the case, and Captain O'Farrell, the well-known attorney, heaved sighs of relief. The postage on the keys was 14 cents.

The captain doesn't trust the "Irish or Dutch," as may be inferred when he honors requisitions for brushes or other supplies, as he invariably issues this injunction:

"Be careful of those brushes; do not leave them lay around any more than you would a gallon of whiskey, for these Irish and Dutch will take them as quick as they can."

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However disagreeable all these things are to the employee, and however insufficient they are regarded by Mr. Greene, to justify any action tending towards Captain Wurdiman's removal, The Globe has the melancholy pleasure of presenting a case to Mr. Greene which, if found to be a fact on investigation, will not only force the Superintendent of the Carnegie Library to disburse with the captain's service but also have a tendency to make the superintendent himself hunt a hole and feel for his scalp.

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And Other Acts and Words of Captain Wurdiman

OF THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY

Superintendent Greene's Attention Called to the Same-Specific Charges which The Globe Stands Ready to Establish by Unimpeachable Testimony—What is Mr. Greene Going to Do About It?

John V. Wurdiman is captain of the watch at the Congressional Library, and he has held that position since its opening. If there is a petty official in the service of the Government more disliked by his subordinates and about whose conduct there are more complaints, The Globe has failed to hear of him. With the possible exception of the two doorkeepers, at the west and east doors, the captain has had some kind of trouble with every employee in his Department. The captain is a great stickler for the observance of the rules by those under him, but, like the king, he assumes to be above the law and the rules himself. For instance, smoking is strictly prohibited, and the captain enforces the prohibition with a clear in his mind, which he puts in the presence of the inferior citizen employees under his orders.

There is a story told of the captain which illustrates another phase of his character, in connection with the case of an employee named Tom Scarlett. Tom didn't get along with the captain, strange to say. In fact, nobody gets along with the captain who has independence of manhood, or who remembers that he is an equal citizen and a fellow taxpayer of the captain's. There is a keyboard under the care of the watch, and the keys are mysteriously disappeared one night during Tom's trick of duty, and they were received the next day by mail at the Library. The captain stormed, and had Tom on the carpet. He was duly reported to Mr. Superintendent Burnett R. Greene, who receives \$5,000 per annum salary, and who spends much of his time superintending the erection of private buildings, and is at present superintending the erection of the Carnegie Library building. Mr. Greene, "first" or "second," Tom Scarlett discharged. Captain O'Farrell, the well-known attorney, was secured by Scarlett, and that gentleman visited Mr. Greene to get a hearing for some facts which had developed touching the mysterious disappearance of the keys and their return by mail. These facts were to the effect that the clerk at the postoffice where the keys were weighed, and the amount of postage determined, took special notice of the man and woman who did the mailing, and stood ready and anxious to identify them. Mr. Greene was too busy drawing a \$5,000 salary from the Government and earning as big a fee on the side superintending the construction of the Carnegie Library. He refused to listen to or reopen the case, and Captain O'Farrell, the well-known attorney, heaved sighs of relief. The postage on the keys was 14 cents.

The captain doesn't trust the "Irish or Dutch," as may be inferred when he honors requisitions for brushes or other supplies, as he invariably issues this injunction:

"Be careful of those brushes; do not leave them lay around any more than you would a gallon of whiskey, for these Irish and Dutch will take them as quick as they can."

About every individual under the captain has lodged complaints against him, but his "pull" is such that up to date he is "monarch of all he surveys" and Surveyor or Engineer Greene wouldn't exchange him for a gold brick.

However disagreeable all these things are to the employee, and however insufficient they are regarded by Mr. Greene, to justify any action tending towards Captain Wurdiman's removal, The Globe has the melancholy pleasure of presenting a case